

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 NEA-11 SCI-06 ARA-16 PM-07

NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20 RSC-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

DRC-01 /212 W

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P 141635Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5855

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, SG, US

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SENGHOR

1. SUMMARY: IN COURSE OF ONE-HOUR EXCHANGE FEB 11, PRESIDENT SENGHOR REAFFIRMED SUPPORT FOR EXPANDED EURAFRICA, INCLUDING MIDDLE EAST. AGAIN, HE CALLED FOR US LEADERSHIP IN CONVENING AFRICA-WIDE CONFERENCE TO RALLY SCIENTIFIC AID FOR SAHEL PROBLEMS. HE CITED DESIRE FOR BETTER COORDINATION OS US-SENEGALESE EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES AND DESCRIBED SENEGAL'S PLANS FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. SUMMARIZING US OBJECTIVES IN SENEL), AMBASSADOR RECAPITULATED US ASSISTANCE TO SAHEL SO FAR AND NOTED CURRENT RELIEF AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM NEGOTIATIONS AND DEVELOPING AMERICAN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE INITIATIVES. END SUMMARY.

2. INDICATING HE HAD SET ASIDE TWICE THE NORMAL PERIOD SO THAT WE COULD ASSESS MAJOR ASPECTS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS SENGHOR SAID HE LOOKED FOR A VITALIZATION OF ISONTACTS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES LARGELY THROUGH
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SIGNIFICANT INFLUX OF AMERICAN PRIVATE CAPITAL AND KNOW-

HOW. THERE WERE NO REAL IMPEDIMENTS TO CLOSER COOPERATION. IN FACT, SENEGAL HAD FAVORABLE BIAS TOWARD US BECAUSE OF LATTER'S LARGE BLACK POPULATION. US SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS WILL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION. PRESIDENT DESCRIBED SENTIMENTAL ATTACHMENT TOWARDS COUNTRIES MARKED BY CONTACTS WITH AFRICAN PEOPLES. HE

FAVORED, IN A LARGER CONTEXT, THE DEVELOPMENT OF EURAFRICAN ASSOCIATION ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN AND INCLUDING THE MIDDLE EAST. THIS OFFERED PROSPECTS FOR PERMANENT SOLUTION TO ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE. EURAFRICAN ENSEMBLE COULD RELATE EFFECTIVELY WITH THE AMERICAS AND ASIA, TWO OTHER IMPORTANT ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND POLITICAL CLUSTERS.

3. SENGHOR SAID ONLY READ FOREIGN POLICY DIVERGENCE WITH US WAS ON SOUTHEAST ASIAN POLICY. (HE HAD RECEIVED CREDENTIALS OF PRG VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR THE DAY BEFORE). HIS COLLEGE DAYS ASSOCIATION WITH HO CHIN MINH AND SIHANOUK HAD LED HIM TO BELIEVE BEST MEANS OF DEALING WITH ASIAN INSURGENCY PROBLEMS WAS TO GIVE MILITANT NATIONALISTS CHANCE TO FACE OVERWHELMING TASKS OF GOVERNING NATION.

4. I SAID THAT WHILE OUR POLICIES ON VIETNAM, LAOS, AND CAMBODIA DID NOT COINCIDE, HE WOULD AGREE THAT OUR EFFORTS HAD ASSURED A GREAT DEAL OF PROGRESS DURING THE PAST YEAR IN RESOLVING THE MAJOR PROBLEMS IN INDOCHINA. BECAUSE OF COMMITMENTS WE WERE KEEPING, US HAD MORE INTERESTS IN AREA THAN SENEGAL, AND WE SOUGHT TO MOVE COUNTRIES IN AREA TO A POSITION WHERE THEY COULD MEET THEIR OWN NEEDS AND CHOOSE THEIR FORM OF GOVERNMENT WITHOUT COERCION. SENGHOR SAID THAT HE ADMIRERED PRESIDENT NIXON AND SECRETARY KISSINGER'S EFFORTS LEADING TO DETENTE, AND THEIR ENDEAVORS MAY WELL HAVE SAVED THE MIDDLE EAST FROM CONFLAGRATION.

5. ACCORDING TO HIS FRIENDS IN EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, US WOULD ALWAYS BE MORE HEAVILY COMMITTED IN LATIN AMERICA THAN IN AFRICA, SENGHOR SAID. THUS, US COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO MAKE AS IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO AFRICA AS THAT OF EUROPE. MY REPLY WAS THAT GROWING US PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INTEREST IN AFRICA IS REALISTICALLY LIMITED BY MANY WORLDWIDE DEMANDS ON OUR NOT UNLIMITED RESOURCES. YET, OUR OVERALL CONTRIBUTION IS SIGNIFICANT. MOREOVER, WE FREQUENTLY CONSULTED EUROPEAN DONORS TO COORDINATE SOME OF OUR EFFORTS AND AVOID DUPLICATION. WE APPRECIATED SENEGAL'S TRADITIONAL TIES WITH FRANCE AND IMPORTANT ROLE OF EUROPE GENERALLY IN AFRICAN ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT. HOWEVER, US BUSINESSMEN OBVIOUSLY ENCOURAGED BY RECENT GOS REASSURANCES THAT AMERICAN INVESTMENTS ACTIVELY SOUGHT AND THEIR PRODUCTS NOT AUTOMATICALLY EXCLUDED FROM SENEGALESE MARKET. WITNESS CURRENT RASH OF ACTIVITY, WHERE FISHING, REFINERY, HOTEL, TOURISM

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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DEVELOPMENT, RICE AND MEAT PRODUCTION PROJECTS ARE UNDER DISCUSSION BY GOS AND US BUSINESSMEN.

6. SENGHOR ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE ENCOURAGED BY PROGRESS IN US PRIVATE INVESTMENT, BUT HE FELT US COULD ALSO MAKE SINGULAR CONTRIBUTION BY BRINGING WEALTH OF ITS SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITY TO FINDING MORE RAPID SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS SUCH AS SAHEL CALAMITY. HE WONDERED WHEN USG MIGHT CALL MAJOR AFRICAN CONFERENCE TO DETERMINE HOW SUCH TECHNIQUES AS WEATHER MODIFICATION AND ERTS TECHNOLOGY COULD BE TURNED TO IMPORTANT NEW ASSISTANCE FOR AFRICA'S POOREST REGIONS. I REMEMBERED HE HAD MADE THIS SAME PLEA ON JAN 7 AND INDICATED I HAD REPORTED HIS SUGGESTION TO WASHINGTON AT THAT TIME. US ALREADY COOPERATING WITH GOS ON SEVERAL SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS,

SUCH AS IMPORTANT GATE EXPERIMENT TO BE REALIZED THIS YEAR.
PERHAPS THIS MIGHT LEAD US FURTHER IN THE DIRECTION HE DESIRED.

7. SENEGALESE PRESIDENT THEN TURNED TO QUESTION OF
NEED FOR GREATER COORDINATION OF EXCHANGE PROGRAM INVOLVING
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VARIETY OF US COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ON AMERICAN SIDE,
BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, LIMITED IN SENEGAL TO THE RESTRICTED
RESOURCES OF COUNTRY'S SOLE UNIVERSITY. I INDICATED
THAT AFTER RECEIPT OF HIS LETTER ON THIS SUBJECT,
EMBASSY HAD UNDERTAKEN INFORMAL SOUNDINGS WITH VISITING
REPRESENTATIVE OF ONE MAJOR US INSTITUTION WHO, UPON
REFLECTING, AGREED NEED EXISTED FOR COORDINATION IN
AMERICA. WE WOULD INFORM DEPARTMENT OF SENEGAL'S
CONCERNS AND DESIRE FOR BETTER COORDINATION OF PRIVATE
US EFFORTS. PERHAPS DEPT COULD IDENTIFY COORDINATING FORUM
FOR US UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES HAVING PROGRAMS WITH THE
UNIVERSITY OF SENEGAL. PRESIDENT NODDED HIS ASSENT.

8. PRESIDENT SAID HE PLEASED WITH OVERALL STATE US-
SENEGALESE CULTURAL RELATIONS. IN FACT, SOVIET AMBASSADOR
HAD COMPLAINED THAT USG ABLE TO MAKE PROPAGANDA FOR
CAPITALIST SYSTEM IN SENEGAL, BUT SENGHOR SAID HE REPLIED
THAT SENEGAL HAD NOTHING TO FEAR FROM CONTACT WITH US
CULTURE AND IDEAS.

9. I THEN SUMMARIZED FOR PRESIDENT SENGHOR US ASSISTANCE
TO SENEGAL IN CONTEXT OF SAHEL RELIEF, NOTING CURRENT
R&R PROJECTS WHICH WILL BE LAUNCHED AFTER AGREEMENT
SIGNED WITHIN NEXT WEEK OR TWO. HE SAID PRIME MINISTER
HAD BRIEFED HIM ON THIS LATEST DEVELOPMENT, AND GOVERNMENT
AND PEOPLE OF SENEGAL WERE MOST GRATEFUL. WHILE
THEIR SITUATION BETTER THAN THAT OF SOME OF THEIR
NEIGHBORS, WATER AND GRAIN LIKELY TO BE CRITICALLY SHORT
IN SEVERAL REGIONS LATER IN THE YEAR. HE HOPED US WOULD
NOT THIS YEAR DENY SENEGAL GRAIN ASSISTANCE. I NOTED
THAT PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF PLAN HAD RAISED THIS
QUESTION WITH ME AND THAT WE WERE IN PROCESS OF SURVEYING
ACTUAL NEEDS IN COOPERATION WITH GOS.
AGGREY

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